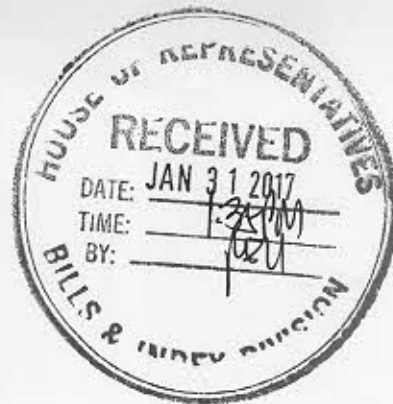




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. **4893**

Introduced by Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe, Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin, Jr., and
Rep. Christopher S. Co

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE ENERGY RESEARCH AND POLICY
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, DEFINING ITS OBJECTIVES, POWERS AND
FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Explanatory Note

The energy sector is naturally characterized by rapidly changing technologies which most of the country's policy instruments cannot keep up due to given limitations in local research and technical capacity. This deficiency can be seen in the sparse academic and policy programs in universities and research centers focusing on energy. As a result, the government has sought assistance from private foreign funded institutions for the needed assistance for energy policy and regulation.

This bill seeks to bridge the research and policy gap in the energy sector by creating a Philippine Energy Research and Policy Development Institute. It recognizes the importance of rigorous multidisciplinary research in making sound energy policies and legislation and thus charges the Institute to undertake collaborative energy research and policy development among the academe and stakeholders; provide timely technical assistance to the government on energy issues needing policy direction and advise; create and administer programs intended to build the capacity of government agencies, energy stakeholders, and the academe; and ensure that the results of energy research and policy development activities are utilized to improve the energy sector, the economy, and the lives of the people.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is sought.

RODEL M. BATOCABE

ALFREDO A. GARBIN, JR.

CHRISTOPHER S. CO

Introduced by Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe, Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin, Jr., and
Rep. Christopher S. Co

AN ACT

**ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE ENERGY RESEARCH AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT
INSTITUTE, DEFINING ITS OBJECTIVES, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING
FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress
assembled:*

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Philippine Energy Research and Policy
2 Development Institute Act of 2016”.

3

4 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure energy
5 security, equity, and sustainability. Towards this end, it is also the policy of the State to enhance
6 knowledge in recent developments and scientific breakthroughs in the field of energy; identify key policy
7 areas, issues, and challenges in the country’s energy sector; and formulate multidisciplinary research-
8 based policies and strategies for the cost-effective use of energy resources towards environmentally-
9 sound energy development.

10

11 **SECTION 3. Establishment of the Philippine Energy Research and Policy Institute.** - Pursuant to
12 the national policy of enhancing the country’s capability for energy research and policy development,
13 there is hereby established in the School of Economics of the University of the Philippines (UP) Diliman,
14 a Philippine Energy Research and Policy Development Institute, hereinafter referred to as the Institute.

15

16 **SECTION 4. Objectives of the Institute.** – The objectives of the Institute are:

- 17 a) To promote collaborative and multidisciplinary energy research and policy development among
18 the academe, and public and private stakeholders;
19 b) To provide timely technical assistance to the government on energy issues needing policy
20 direction and advise;

- c) To create and administer programs intended to build the capacity of government agencies, public and private energy stakeholders, and the academe including graduate, and post-graduate students;
- d) To establish mechanisms for the dissemination and utilization of research and policy development outputs;
- e) To ensure that the results of energy research and policy development activities are utilized to improve the energy sector, the economy, and the lives of the people.

SECTION 5. Functions of the Institute. – The powers and functions of the Institute shall include but shall not be limited to:

- a) Establishing research and policy development programs and capacity-building trainings on energy;
- b) Formulating and conducting research on energy discoveries, public policy issues in energy markets, and other pressing issues and problems, all backed by rigorous empirical evidence;
- c) Enhancing the masters and doctoral pool of researchers and faculty in the field of energy;
- d) Providing common research support facilities while maximizing the utilization of its expert support staff;
- e) Establishing local and foreign linkages in energy research and policy development;
- f) Serving as the repository of all energy-related researches and studies to be generated by the Institute and other academic institutions;
- g) Proposing and allocating its annual budgetary resources while optimizing resource generation and utilization; and
- h) Receiving and managing grants, aid, donations or any kind of assistance for achieving its objectives, in accordance with the rules and regulations of UP.

The Advisory Council may give additional powers and functions to the Institute *Provided:* That it shall be in accordance with the objectives of the Institute as stated in this Act.

SECTION 6. Organizational Structure. – The Institute shall be administered by an Executive Director and overseen by an Advisory Council.

SECTION 7. The Executive Director. – The Executive Director shall be a tenured faculty member of UP and a recognized scholar in energy research and policy development. The Board of Regents shall appoint the Executive Director who shall serve for a term of three (3) years which can be renewed for another three (3) years.

SECTION 8. Advisory Council of the Institute. – There shall be an Advisory Council of the Institute to be composed of the following:

- a) Chancellor of UP Diliman as the Chairperson;
- b) Dean of the UP College of Engineering;
- c) Dean of the UP College of Law;
- d) Dean of the UP College of Science;
- e) Dean of the UP School of Statistics;
- f) Dean of the UP School of Economics; and
- g) One (1) other member who is a recognized scholar in energy research and policy development to be appointed by the Board of Regents upon recommendation of the UP President.

The Executive Director shall concurrently serve as a Member-Secretary of the Board. The Chancellor of UP Diliman, and the Deans of the College of Engineering, College of Law, College of Science, School of Statistics, and School of Economics shall serve in an ex-officio capacity. The one other member shall serve for a term of two (2) years.

SECTION 9. Functions of the Advisory Council. – The Advisory Council shall have the following powers and functions:

1. To recommend the general directions and determine the priorities of the Institute;
2. To recommend research and policy areas for study and investigation by the Institute based on its evaluation of the energy policy landscape including the needs and demands of the country and the people;
3. To recommend to the Board of Regents the establishment of the component units of the Institute;
4. To generate resources and obtain logistical and financial support for the programs and component units of the Institute;
5. To provide advice to the Institute on any matter relating to the development of a research and/or policy area and the administration of research and policy programs; and
6. To monitor and review all the activities and operations of the Institute as implemented by the Executive Director.

SECTION 10. Appointment of Faculty and Staff. – The human resource complement of the Institute shall be organized and set-up by the Executive Director in accordance with the existing rules and regulations of UP and upon approval by the Board of Regents.

SECTION 11. Public Access. – The public and other energy institutions shall have access to the research findings, facilities, and other resources of the Institute, as provided in the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

1 **SECTION 12. Trust Fund.** – A trust fund, which is designated as the Energy Research Fund, is hereby
2 established for the support of the Institute, including the purchase of research equipment and facilities,
3 compensation and honoraria to researchers, whether in government service or otherwise, and such other
4 necessary expenses to carry out the purpose of this Act. The Energy Research Fund shall consist of the
5 amounts appropriated by the Government under this Act, and such sums as may be derived from private
6 endowments, donations, and other sources.

7

8 **SECTION 13. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity
9 of this Act, the UP Board of Regents, in coordination with the Department of Energy, shall formulate
10 the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

11

12 **SECTION 14. Separability Clause.** – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared to be
13 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to
14 be in full force or effect.

15

16 **SECTION 15. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof
17 which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or
18 modified accordingly.

19

20 **SECTION 16. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least
21 two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

22 Approved.